

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31st, 1888

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CHIEF OF THE COLONY, said with regard to the estimate submitted to the Governor, that the sum was increased from \$50,000 to \$81,212. It was only a vote on account, and not a vote on the whole. He said that Hon. J. BELL-IRVING—Is it true that the Governor has not yet distributed the prizes before Christmas? The CHAIRMAN—No, but it is the intention to do so. Hon. J. BELL-IRVING—Is it true that the Governor has not yet distributed the prizes before Christmas? The CHAIRMAN—No, but it is the intention to do so. Hon. J. BELL-IRVING—Is it true that the Governor has not yet distributed the prizes before Christmas? The CHAIRMAN—No, but it is the intention to do so.

thought it would make it clearer. He also moved that the words in the same section, "Except for purpose of draining off water from the ground," be omitted, and that the words "for the purpose of drainage" be inserted. There was no back yard which did not admit of some other method.

The SUNDAY-GENERAL seconded, and the motion was carried.

The remainder of the by-laws dealing with drains in new premises was passed with a few verbal amendments.

The VICE-PRESIDENT then proposed that the whole of the by-laws under this head do pass.

The PRESIDENT seconded.

Carried.

The Board then went on to consider the by-law relating to defective and insanitary buildings in existing premises.

The REGISTER-GENERAL moved that everywhere where it was stated that a notice had been served by the Board the words "in English or Chinese" should be added.

Mr. TONG seconded.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said it must be remembered that the notices were not issued to the whole Chinese population like those respecting nuisances, but were notices sent to persons who had been put to about thirty contractors, who were engaged, and in his opinion he thought it better to state them up to our ideas and the use of the Chinese language, terms of which might not exactly tally with what we want. He would not, however, oppose the motion if the Register-General wished it.

Mr. TONG then put and carried.

The remainder of the By-Laws under this heading having been considered the VICE-PRESIDENT proposed that the whole, as amended, do pass.

The SURVEYOR-GENERAL seconded.

Carried.

The SURVEYOR-GENERAL gave notice that at the next meeting he would bring forward a resolution by-law for the consideration of the Board.

The Board then went on to consider the by-laws to be made by the Sanitary Board for the compulsory reporting of infectious diseases, and the complete cleaning, disinfecting, and the complete packing of infected premises and the disinfection and purification of the same under the provisions of subsections 10 and 24 of Section 13 of the Public Health Ordinance, and the by-law which defines infectious diseases as including small-pox, cholera, typhus, typhoid, scarlet fever (scarlatina) and diphtheria.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said he observed that Dr. Cantlie had not indicated how far he intended to go.

Dr. CANTLIE said he hoped he should not have to do so.

The VICE-PRESIDENT—I suppose you will not waste your mind on the point yet.

On Section 7, which provides that in case of an inmate of any premises suffering from infectious disease, if he be not under care of a medical practitioner, the person having charge of such premises shall forthwith report by disease then any other person on premises cognizant of the existence of such cases, shall as soon as he becomes aware thereof give notice in writing forthwith to the secretary of the Board or the officer in charge of the nearest Police Station.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said he thought responsibility must be fixed down somewhat.

The PRESIDENT said he did not see how they were to deal with this section. How could he prove that the person in charge of the premises was cognizant of the existence of the disease? The previous clause provided that if the inspector found any person neglecting to comply with law to furnish the notice. He had known many cases, say in the case of typhoid, where medical practitioners did not agree. How were they going to deal with this?

The REGISTER-GENERAL said the Chairman was not aware of the symptoms of half diseases mentioned.

Dr. CANTLIE said they knew small-pox and cholera.

Dr. AYLES said if anyone was found vomiting and purging now the Chinese at once said it was cholera. He had had one such case reported to him of cholera and he found that it was the case.

Dr. CANTLIE said there would be no harm in reporting such a case. If it was found that it was not cholera, so much the better. As he has denoted it, the object of the clause was to detect the existence of an infectious disease in his neighbor's house direct or indirect. At present he had no right to do so, and if he did he might be charged with libel, and he thought it might be put to it turned out to be incorrect.

The VICE-PRESIDENT proposed that the by-laws stand over for further consideration.

The REGISTER-GENERAL seconded.

Carried.

The VICE-PRESIDENT proposed that the by-laws passed be forwarded to the Governor for the consideration of the Legislative Council.

The REGISTER-GENERAL seconded.

Carried.

The Board then adjourned till Thursday, 1st November.

**CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE,
LIMITED.**

The seventh ordinary general meeting shareholders of the above Company was held at the office of the general agents, Messrs. Jard Matheson & Co., on the 27th Oct. There were present—Hon. J. Bell-Irving (Chairman), F. W. Watson, A. McClymont, R. W. Eyre, Captain Talbot, Captain Anderson, Wymour, Mr. G. H. Smith, Mr. J. B. Macdonald, Mr. Ting, Tat Hong Kwong Hop, and W. Cruikshank (Secretary).

The CHAIRMAN said—The report and statement of accounts having been in your hands some time, you will wish to allow them as evidence before proceeding to business. This report is the most satisfactory we have been able to place before you, the reconstitution of the Office, and this is the more gratifying that the year 1887 has been a favorable one for underwriters generally. The profit on the year's working, in \$296,672 against \$277,772 for 1886, and from this amount a dividend of 10 per cent. to shareholders and bonus of 50 per cent. to contributors of business has been declared. The total sum available to pass to the credit of our Reserve Fund \$740,000, the largest sum the articles of association will permit of, of \$2 million additional fund, and of \$2 million reserve. The strengthening of our resources, and the importance of the greatest importance, and notwithstanding the interest and misleading statements circulated recently, which have recently appeared in the press, and which have caused us to receive very reasonable attention from us as well as from the other leading China companies. We have ceased the dividend to shareholders this year instead of paying a further bonus to contributors as was expected. It is our intention to pay and tend to the continued prosperity of the Office. The estimate of working during 1888 to 30 September shows an improvement on that of 1887, and we are confident that the winter, in its policy position, and if our losses during the approaching winter are not unusually heavy, may fairly anticipate that our next report will be even more favourable than this one. It is our belief that the year 1888 will be a very profitable that those of this year exposed those of last year about \$83,000, but against this must be placed the fact that we have collected more premium than last year, and that we have a very active insurance of business without any increase of expenses or any departure from our conservative policy. Since the report was printed we have learned of the disastrous effect of the typhoon on the coast of China, and we are anxious to let you know that the interest of the office in the tidings are confined to a small line on inland and that the *Ghaese*, by which a full line was carried, turned out not cargo in good order. Before the completion of the report and accounts, I shall be glad to answer any question that any gentleman present may wish to put to me. There being no questions the Chairman thanked the members for their report and accounts.

Mr. BYRUMER seconded.

Carried unanimously.

Mr. WATSON proposed that the appointment of Messrs. Solomon and Layton to the Board do stand over until the next meeting.

Mr. TONG seconded.

With Messrs. Dalrymple, Byrie, and Bell Irving do compose the consulting committee until next meeting.

Resolved unanimously.